

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original) A method of producing a retinyl ester compound comprising subjecting a composition comprising retinol or a retinyl ester and a fat or oil of animal or vegetable origins to enzyme catalysed transesterification in solvent free conditions to produce a retinyl ester.

Claim 2 (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the fat or oil of animal or vegetable origin contains one or more C₁₂₋₂₂ saturated or unsaturated fatty acids.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the enzyme is a lipase enzyme.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the enzyme is immobilised on a support.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the fat or oil of animal or vegetable origin contains a fatty acid triglyceride.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the source of the fatty acid is kombo nut oil, coriander oil, sunflower oil, safflower oil, pomegranate seed oil, Manketti nut oil, fish oil, borage oil, pine nut oil or Impatiens balsamina seed oil or calendula seed oil.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the enzyme is immobilised on a solid support.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended) A mixture of retinyl esters of fatty acids prepared according to the method of ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the mixture reflects the composition of the fat or oil from which it was prepared.

Claim 9 (Original) A mixture of retinyl esters of fatty acids according to claim 8 further comprising the fat or oil.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A mixture of retinyl esters according to ~~claims 8 or 9~~ claim 8 wherein at least one ester comprises a conjugated or nonconjugated C18:3 or C18:4 retinol fatty acid ester.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended) A topical composition for application to human skin containing a mixture of retinyl esters according to ~~Claims 8 to 10~~ claim 8.

Claim 12 (Original) A cosmetic method of treating human skin comprising applying thereto a topical composition according to claim 11.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended) A method of providing at least one skin care benefit selected from: treating/preventing wrinkling, sagging, aged and/or photodamaged skin; boosting collagen deposition on skin, boosting decorin production in skin; soothing irritated, red and/or sensitive skin; improving skin texture, smoothness and/or firmness; providing anti-inflammatory benefits; enhancing skin differentiation; reducing sebum production; or the prevention or treatment of acne; comprising applying thereto a mixture of retinyl esters according to ~~any of claims 8 to 10~~ claim 8, ~~or a topical composition according to claim 11.~~